

LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD

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Sussex County Library Advisory Board (LAB) Meeting MINUTES Wednesday, December 16, 2020

VIA A ZOOM MEETING: REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Please send email request to Kathy Graybeal at kgraybeal@sussexcountye.gov for login.

In attendance: Diana Young, LAB President; John Monahan, LAB Vice President, Mary Schwanky and Steve Schwartz, LAB members; Annie Norman, State Librarian; Carol Fitzgerald and Theo Loppatto, Friends of DE Libraries members; Chandler Parr, WRDE; Sue Keefe, Kay Hudson, Bonnie Elliott, Mary Brittingham, Valerie O'Neal, Alison Miller, Jerry Keiser, Karen Johnson, Susan Upole, Jill DiPaolo, Jessica Webb, Gail Bruce, Kelly Kline, Mary Hopkins and Pam Batten, Sussex library directors and staff; Rachel Lynch, Assistant County Librarian; Kathy Graybeal, Count Librarian.

Call to Order Diana Young at 9:33a.

Adoption of the Wednesday, December 16, 2020 Agenda. Motion: Diana Young 2nd: John Monahan Approve Wednesday, September 16, 2020 Minutes. Motion: John Monahan 2nd: Mary Schwanky

Announcement:

- Laurel Library – DLA's Library of the Year.
- Possible impacts of the election results – knowns and unknowns? Gov, Sec of State, Deputy, State Librarian. Two new members of Sussex County Council. Lots of unknowns around their positions on funding, particularly re: libraries and schools.
- New contact from County: SusseXtra Newsletter launched in Oct. Sign-up on the site.

Sussex County Libraries

- Update: library service. Operation Warm: several Sussex libraries participated; Seaford/Bridgeville are open; across Oct/Nov, computer appointments, copying, faxing, notary open; limited browsing; restart of select regular programs (e.g.: teen book/art clubs). See list on Nov 5, 2020 COL notes for sample list.
- Meals continue; weekend backpacks (Laurel).
- Visitors remain low in all libraries.
- Update: library reopening. See above. With Gov. Carney's 12/11/20 changes: computer appointments canceled; "Christmas week" closures; program roll-back options. Teleworking still strongly supported by County Admin.
- Managing positive exposure or possible positive exposure among staff.
- Staff mental health + COVID brain concern across the board.

- Independent Library Directors' Dec 2 funding discussion: Here is the link to the meeting. <https://youtu.be/SN73qLpvROs>
- For FY 2022, data from July 1, 2019-Feb 29, 2020; use FY 2019 numbers for March-June, 2020.
- Concern about "counting fatigue." Perhaps move slowly until census is out and COVID is passed?

DDL/Steering/DE Libraries/COL

- Update: library service. Services offered still align across the state. RE: reopening - New Castle County (NCCo) = same as Sussex; Kent Co./Dover – opened then closed; Dover – due to exposure, they also canceled curbside.
- Low visitor attendance across state as well.
- Solutions to delivery issues with Baker + Taylor underway in (NCCo). Tracking also underway in Sussex. While it may be impacted by COVID, this has been a documented problem from more than a year before the virus.
- COL – Nov 5th Kindness Project introduced. No response.
- Report: Council on Libraries.
 - Governor's Budget: Nov 12 – virtual. Speakers allowed. Responses to DLA survey by legislators disappointing.
 - Recordings and presentation material from Dec 3, 2020 Library Town Meeting are available in the Delaware Libraries Project Planning LibGuide at <https://guides.lib.de.us/projectplanning/LTM2020>.
 - LTM "lightening" and enlightening! Recognitions and a *small step* looking forward. Again, acutely aware of COVID brain.
 - DLA Legislative Day will be virtual and spread over 3 days with special speakers each day.

Next meeting date: January 20, 2021 – time to-be-determined via the Zoom platform.

Adjourn. Motion: Mary Schwanky 2nd: John Monahan.